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Biennial Report

of the

NORTH CAROLINA STATE COMMISSION FOR THE BLIND



From July 1, 1950, through June 30, 1952



*"And I will bring the blind by a way that they knew not;
I will lead them in paths that they have not known;
I will make darkness light before them."*

—Isaiah xlii, 16.

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Governor Scott presenting Mr. Thomas Hunter (blind), of Fayetteville, the first award made in connection with the 1951 Nationally Employ the Physically Handicapped Week. This is the Governor's trophy for outstanding achievement in the field of employment by a handicapped person in North Carolina.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Letter of Transmittal	4
Members of the North Carolina State Commission Board..	5
Advisory Medical Committee	6
Introduction	7
Organizational Chart	8
Aid to Blind Chart	9
Social Service Division	10
Specialized Service Chart	12
Comparative Analysis of Aid to Blind	14
Medical Division	18
Services for Children	23
Vocational Rehabilitation Division	27
General Rehabilitation	28
Rehabilitation Center	34
Home Industries	39
Workshops	41
Bureau of Employment for the Blind	44
Assistance and Cooperation from Other Agencies	47
Recommendations	48
Appendix I	54
Appendix II	56
Appendix III	58

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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

To Honorable W. Kerr Scott
Governor of North Carolina
Raleigh, North Carolina

Dear Governor Scott:

Pursuant to Chapter 53, Public Laws of 1935 and subsequent legislation, I have the honor to submit to you the accompanying report of the North Carolina State Commission for the Blind for the biennial period beginning with July 1, 1950 and ending June 30, 1952. This report concerns the management and financial transactions of this Department.

Respectfully submitted,

Sam M. Cathey, Chairman
N. C. State Commission for the Blind

MEMBERS OF THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE COMMISSION FOR THE BLIND

(Six Members—Appointed by the Governor)

JUDGE SAM M. CATHEY, *Chairman*, Asheville, N. C.

DR. HOWARD E. JENSEN, *Chairman, Executive Committee*, Durham, N. C.

MR. H. C. BRADSHAW, Durham, N. C.

MR. FRANK C. KING, Brevard, N. C.

MR. SAM ALFORD, Henderson, N. C.

MR. THOMAS S. PAYNE, Washington, N. C.

(Five-Ex-Officio Members—Designated by the Legislature)

MR. ERNEST C. MCCrackEN, *Director, State Employment Service, Division of Employment Security Commission*, Raleigh, N. C.

MR. EGBERT N. PEELER, *Supt., State School for the Blind*, Raleigh, N. C.

DR. J. W. R. NORTON, *Secretary and State Health Officer, State Board of Health*, Raleigh, N. C.

COL. CHARLES H. WARREN, *Director, Vocational Rehabilitation*, Raleigh, N. C.

DR. ELLEN BLACK WINSTON, *Commissioner, State Board of Public Welfare*, Raleigh, N. C.

ADVISORY MEDICAL COMMITTEE

(Surgeons Certified by the American Board of Ophthalmology)

- DR. SAM D. MCPHERSON, JR., *Chairman*, Durham, N. C.
DR. V. M. HICKS, *Supervising Ophthalmologist, Aid to the Blind*, Raleigh, N. C.
DR. ELBERT C. ANDERSON, Wilmington, N. C.
DR. W. BANKS ANDERSON, Durham, N. C.
DR. RALPH A. ARNOLD, Durham, N. C.
DR. JAMES W. BIZZELL, Goldsboro, N. C.
DR. H. H. BRIGGS, Asheville, N. C.
DR. A. N. COSTNER, Durham, N. C.
DR. H. M. DALTON, Kinston, N. C.
DR. ALAN DAVIDSON, New Bern, N. C.
DR. JOHN L. ETHERINGTON, Goldsboro, N. C.
DR. B. A. HELSABECK, Winston-Salem, N. C.
DR. L. BYERLY HOLT, Winston-Salem, N. C.
DR. CLARENCE B. FOSTER, Charlotte, N. C.
DR. J. G. JOHNSTON, Charlotte, N. C.
DR. RUTH LEONARD, Charlotte, N. C.
DR. M. N. LYMBERIS, Charlotte, N. C.
DR. THOMAS A. MARTIN, Raleigh, N. C.
DR. E. E. MOORE, Asheville, N. C.
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DR. ROBERT ODOM, Asheville, N. C.
DR. GEORGE T. NOEL, Kannapolis, N. C.
DR. WINSTON ROBERTS, Winston-Salem, N. C.
DR. JOHN L. SHIPLEY, Elizabeth City, N. C.
DR. HENRY L. SLOAN, Charlotte, N. C.
DR. FRANK C. SMITH, Charlotte, N. C.
DR. WILLIAM P. SPEAS, Winston-Salem, N. C.
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DR. FREDERICK W. STOCKER, Durham, N. C.
DR. J. DAVID STRATTON, Charlotte, N. C.
DR. HORACE G. STRICKLAND, Greensboro, N. C.
DR. S. WEIZENBLATT, Asheville, N. C.
DR. JOHN D. WILSEY, Winston-Salem, N. C.
DR. LARRY TURNER, Durham, N. C.

INTRODUCTION

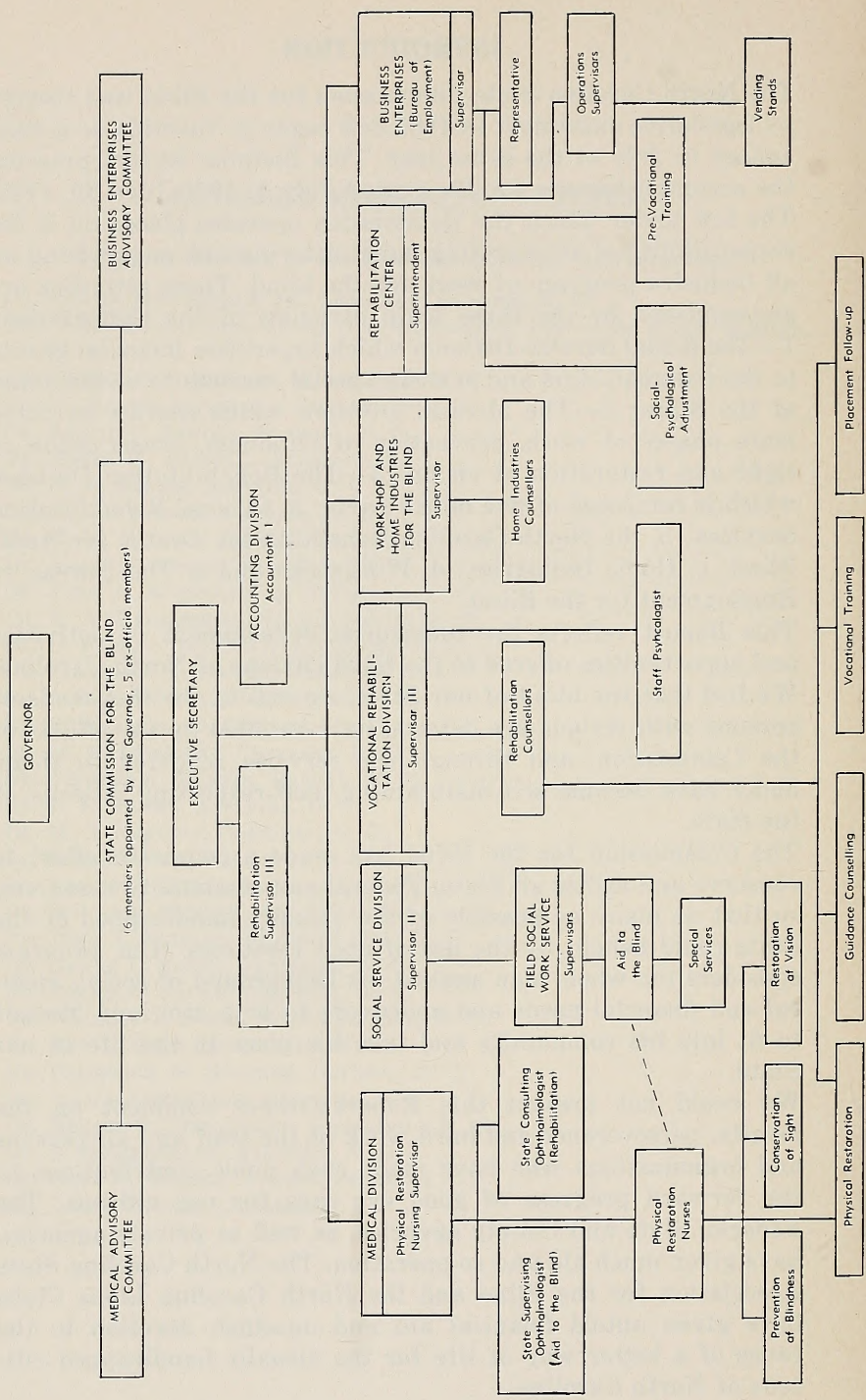
The North Carolina State Commission for the Blind was created by legislative enactment in 1935 and began to function as a state agency in July of the same year. This Biennial Report presents the accomplishments for the period July 1, 1950-June 30, 1952. The law under which the Commission operates places on it the responsibility of interpreting, administering and supervising an all inclusive program of work for the blind. These activities are accomplished by the three main divisions of the Commission: 1—The Social Service Division which supervises financial grants to the indigent blind and renders special services to all the blind of the State; 2—The Medical Division which carries on three main phases of work, prevention of blindness, conservation of sight and restoration of vision; 3—The Rehabilitation Division which is composed of five major parts: a, General Rehabilitation Services; b, the North Carolina Rehabilitation Center for Adult Blind; c, Home Industries; d, Workshops and e, The Bureau of Employment for the Blind.

This Report reflects the continuous development of activities and opportunities offered to the blind citizens of North Carolina. We feel that the blind of our State, as well as the thousands of persons with serious eye defects, have profited by the efforts of the Commission, and through the services rendered to them, many have become self-maintaining, self-respecting citizens of the state.

The Commission for the Blind has made a concerted effort to conserve and utilize all State, Federal and community resources, so that as many as possible of the visually handicapped of the State could benefit by the use of such resources. Our program considers the whole man against his background of social, medical and financial needs and endeavors to help him help himself to fit into his community and take his place in the life of our State.

We could not present this Report without comment on the loyalty, perseverance and hard work of the staff and all persons and organizations who have made such noble contributions to the forward progress of good eye care for our citizens. The Federal, State and County agencies, as well as private agencies, have given much aid and co-operation. The North Carolina State Association for the Blind and the North Carolina Lions Clubs have given untold financial aid and unselfish devotion to the cause of a better way of life for the visually handicapped citizens of North Carolina.

Organizational Chart—North Carolina State Commission for the Blind

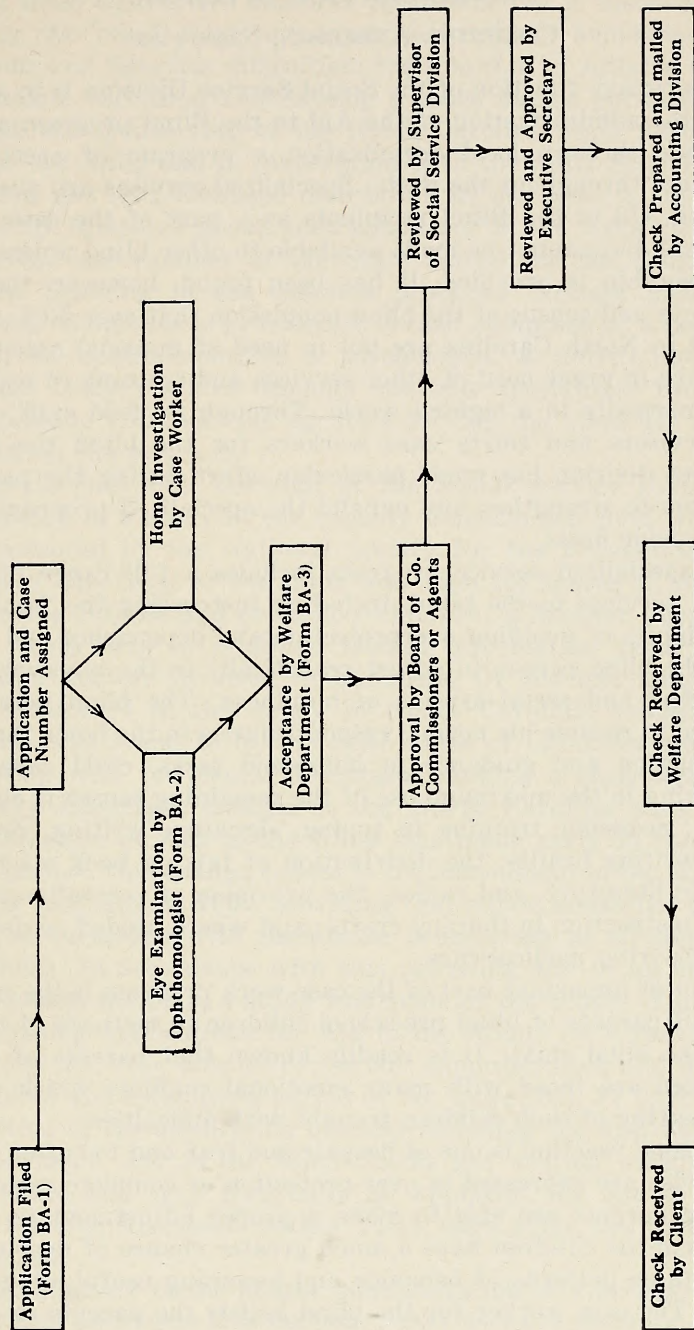


FLOW CHARTS OF APPLICATIONS AND PAYMENTS OF AID TO THE BLIND GRANTS

COMMISSION FOR THE BLIND

COUNTY

APPLICANT



SOCIAL SERVICE DIVISION

CHRISTINE ANDERSON, *Supervisor*

The primary function of the Social Service Division is to supervise the administration of the Aid to the Blind program and to provide through local organization a program of specialized services throughout the State. Specialized services are available to the Aid to the Blind recipients as a part of the case work process, but cannot be made available to other blind unless local sponsorship is provided. It has been found, however, through surveys and census of the blind population that over 50% of the blind in North Carolina are not in need of financial assistance, but are in great need of other services and training in order to live normally in a sighted world. Through its field staff of six supervisors and thirty case workers for the blind the social service division has made particular effort during the past biennium to strengthen and expand the specialized program on a State-wide basis.

The specialized service program includes a full range of case work services to the blind, including instructing the family in techniques of avoiding overprotection and dependence and helping the blind person to adjust realistically to the physical, psychological and social aspects of blindness. The blind person is helped to resume his normal responsibilities in the home through instruction and guidance in household tasks, child care, etc. Training in the maximum use of the remaining senses is emphasized; academic training in typing, signature writing, reading and writing braille; the distribution of talking book machines, braille literature, and radios; the provision of recreational outlets; instruction in therapy crafts; and where needed, assistance in procuring medical care.

One most important part of the case work program is the education of parents of blind pre-school children in methods of training the blind child. It is readily known that parents of blind children are faced with many emotional conflicts which make the rearing of such children fraught with difficulties.

The usual reaction is one of despair and fear and too often their attitudes are expressed in over-protection or complete rejection. If the parents are able to make a proper adjustment to their problem the children have a much greater chance of developing acceptable patterns of behavior and becoming useful adult citizens. The case worker for the blind assists the parents in over-

coming these destructive attitudes by instruction in methods of training the blind child to become self-reliant; avoidance of blindisms and behavior difficulties; the selection of suitable toys to stimulate the mind and develop a more secure personality. Through the sponsorship of the North Carolina State Association for the Blind and in cooperation with the State School for the Blind this individualized instruction in the home is supplemented by intensive group instruction for a one week period during the late summer at the State School for the Blind in Raleigh. Training in the common problems through modern workshop techniques is provided by a staff composed of a pediatrician, an ophthalmologist, a psychologist, a nutritionist, a librarian, nursery school teachers and play specialists. Prominent speakers from various agencies serving the blind are also featured on the program.

During the biennium the staff of the Social Service Division participated in a study of the visually handicapped child which was sponsored by the National Society for the Prevention of Blindness. The focus of the study was upon the causes of blindness among infants and pre-school children; a broader purpose of the study was to establish factual information regarding hereditary factors involved in blindness. Of the one hundred cases considered in this study in North Carolina, congenital cataracts was found to be the chief cause of blindness among this group with retrolental fibroplasia ranking a close second. One very important change in the North Carolina plan for administration of Aid to the Blind was made early in the biennial period. This change relates to the amendment to the Social Security Act, August 1950, providing that public assistance payments be furnished with reasonable promptness to all eligible individuals. In accordance with this provision and in an effort to implement the plan, a study was made of the causes of delay in processing applications for Aid to the Blind. As a result of this study we were able to revise our administrative and fiscal procedures and establish a period of not more than 31 days for completion of the application process, including the first assistance payment. Aid to the Blind checks are written weekly in State Office and very frequently an applicant for Aid to the Blind receives his check within 10-14 days after the date of application.

As a preliminary to the proper administration of a program of service and assistance it is necessary that we have accurate data

on the number of blind and where they may be located. A currently validated census is maintained in State Office and in each of the six Field Supervisors' offices of the agency. It is the direct responsibility of the staff of the Social Service Division to locate and register all blind persons and to keep alert to any needed or desired services that may be given by the agency. A complete tabulation giving location of blind persons by counties and characteristics on race, sex, age, degree of blindness, age at onset of blindness and source of support will be found in Appendix I.

The field supervisors and case workers for the blind made 1,203 talks to local civic groups and over radio in an effort to interpret and discuss the work being done in the State by the State Commission for the Blind and interested sponsoring groups. This type of public interpretation affords an excellent opportunity for discussing local problems and programs relating to the blind and creates interest and support in promoting the welfare of the blind citizens in each community within the State.

Our progress in providing the many types of specialized services to help the blind develop useful, well-adjusted and happy lives is reflected in the following chart which lists the activities and the number of contacts made by the case workers for the blind during the biennium:

CHART I

SPECIALIZED SERVICES GIVEN BY CASEWORKERS FOR THE BLIND IN COOPERATION WITH LOCAL LIONS CLUBS

	Biennium 1948-50	Biennium 1950-52
1. Home visits	31,695	32,562
2. Assistance in Personal Adjustment to Blindness— Assistance in learning to utilize to a maximum degree the other senses and to develop effective ways of performing without sight the ordinary activities of living	8,785	13,814
3. Assistance in family adjustment—Instructing the family in ways of helping the blind person to ad- just to blindness—Assisting the blind person in resuming his normal responsibilities in the home through instruction in child care, performance of household duties, etc.	4,886	8,025
4. Instruction in Therapy Crafts—Hobby crafts— sewing, weaving, chair caning, mat making,		

leather work, basketry, crocheting, knitting, gardening, raising pets and farm animals, etc.....	5,314	4,006
5. Academic Work—Reading and writing Braille and typing; signature writing; referral to State School for the Blind; referrals to classes for partially sighted; distribution of sight-saving materials; information regarding admission to Rehabilitation Center for the Blind.....	4,957	7,748
6. Medical Care—This includes planning for the treatment, transportation and follow-up work in cooperation with the Medical Division.....	21,733	26,158
7. Recreation—Plays, movies, picnics, distribution of gift radios	4,409	7,806
8. Miscellaneous Services	7,456	7,809
9. Talking Book Machines distributed	1,214	972

Both State and Federal laws provide that any applicant or recipient for Aid to the Blind may appeal to the State Commission for the Blind, requesting a hearing if he is dissatisfied because of the following reasons: if his application is not taken, if his application is not acted upon within thirty-one days, if his application is rejected, if he is dissatisfied with the amount of his monthly payment, if he is not satisfied, if his payment is changed or stopped, or if he is found eligible and no payment is made within thirty-one days. The State agency upon receipt of such appeal must afford a fair hearing.

During 1950-52 seven requests for hearings were received; the following tabulation shows the number, and action taken by the State Commission for the Blind:

Requests received	7
Total handled	7
Requests withdrawn or disposed of by other means, such as adjustment by county prior to hearing.....	2
Disposed of by decision of the State Commission in favor of appellant	3
County action upheld	2

The issues involved in the appeals were budgetary deficiency, income or property of members of appellant's family and income of the appellant.

During the biennial period a total of 5,838 blind persons received Aid to the Blind payments on basis of economic need. It is noteworthy that of this total number of recipients 57.6% were over 55 years of age. Many of the Aid to the Blind recipients have some other disability in addition to their visual handicap and

could never become employable members of society. Complete informational data on the number of persons receiving Aid to the Blind payments, the number terminated or rejected and the age, race and range of payments is given in Chart II, A Comparative Analysis of Aid to the Blind Acceptances—Rejections—Terminations—for the biennial period, July 1, 1950-June 30, 1952:

CHART II

A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF AID TO THE BLIND ACCEPTANCES—REJECTIONS—TERMINATIONS

1. Number of persons receiving AB payments		
June 30, 1950	4,144	
2. Number of applications accepted, July 1, 1950- June 30, 1952..	1,694	
3. Total number persons receiving AB,		
July 1, 1950-June 30, 1952	5,838	
4. Number of blind persons whose cases were closed,		
July 1, 1950-June 30, 1952	1,402	
Reasons for closing:		
a. Vision restored	167	
b. Death	670	
c. Moved out-of-State	32	
d. Became self-supporting	134	
e. Receipt of Serviceman's Allotment	19	
f. Support from relatives	146	
g. Admitted to Public Institution	105	
h. Receipt of other Public or Private Aid.....	18	
i. Soliciting alms	7	
j. Other	104	
5. Number of persons receiving AB, June 30, 1952.....	4,436	
6. Number of persons denied AB, July 1, 1950-June 30, 1952.....	287	
Reasons for Rejection:		
a. Ineligible on basis of vision	105	
b. Ineligible on basis of residence	4	
c. Inmate of Public Institution	1	
d. Other resources	157	
e. Other	20	
7. North Carolina average monthly AB payment,		
June 1950	\$ 33.98	
8. North Carolina average monthly AB payment,		
June 1952	34.57	
9. Range of monthly AB Payments:		
	June 1950	June 1952
a. \$ 4.00—\$ 9.99.....	6	24
b. 10.00— 14.99.....	83	131
c. 15.00— 19.99.....	209	197
d. 20.00— 24.99.....	560	464
e. 25.00— 29.99.....	714	703

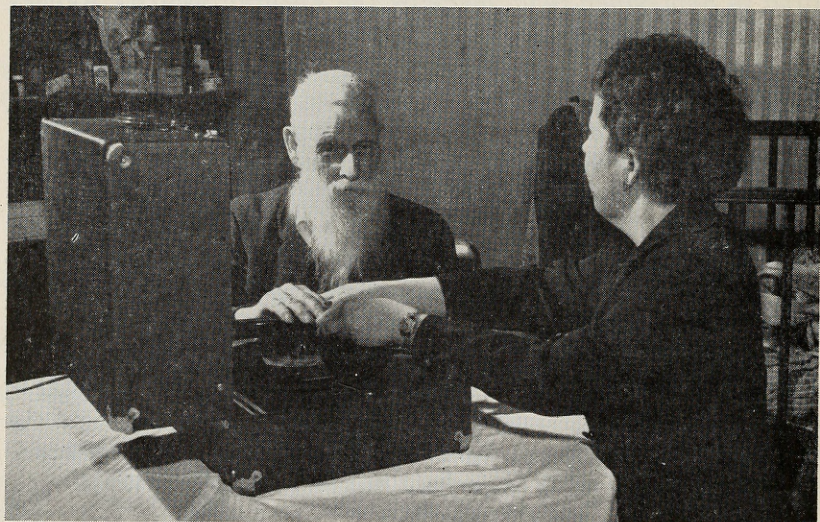
f.	30.00— 34.99	697	812
g.	35.00— 39.99	487	540
h.	40.00— 44.99	449	446
i.	45.00— 50.00	939	1,119
10. Age range of AB recipients:			
		June 1950	June 1952
a.	0-14	32	55
b.	15-24	227	290
c.	25-54	1,395	1,532
d.	55 and over	2,490	2,559
11. Race of AB recipients:			
		June 1950	June 1952
a.	White	2,195	2,345
b.	Negro	1,911	2,054
c.	Indian	38	37

Through an amendment to the Aid to the Blind title of the Social Security Act, effective October 1950, the Congress gave legislative approval to the exemption of earnings of recipients of Aid to the Blind up to a maximum of \$50.00 monthly. (This legislation was optional to the States for the period, October 1950 through June 30, 1952; mandatory, July 1, 1952.)

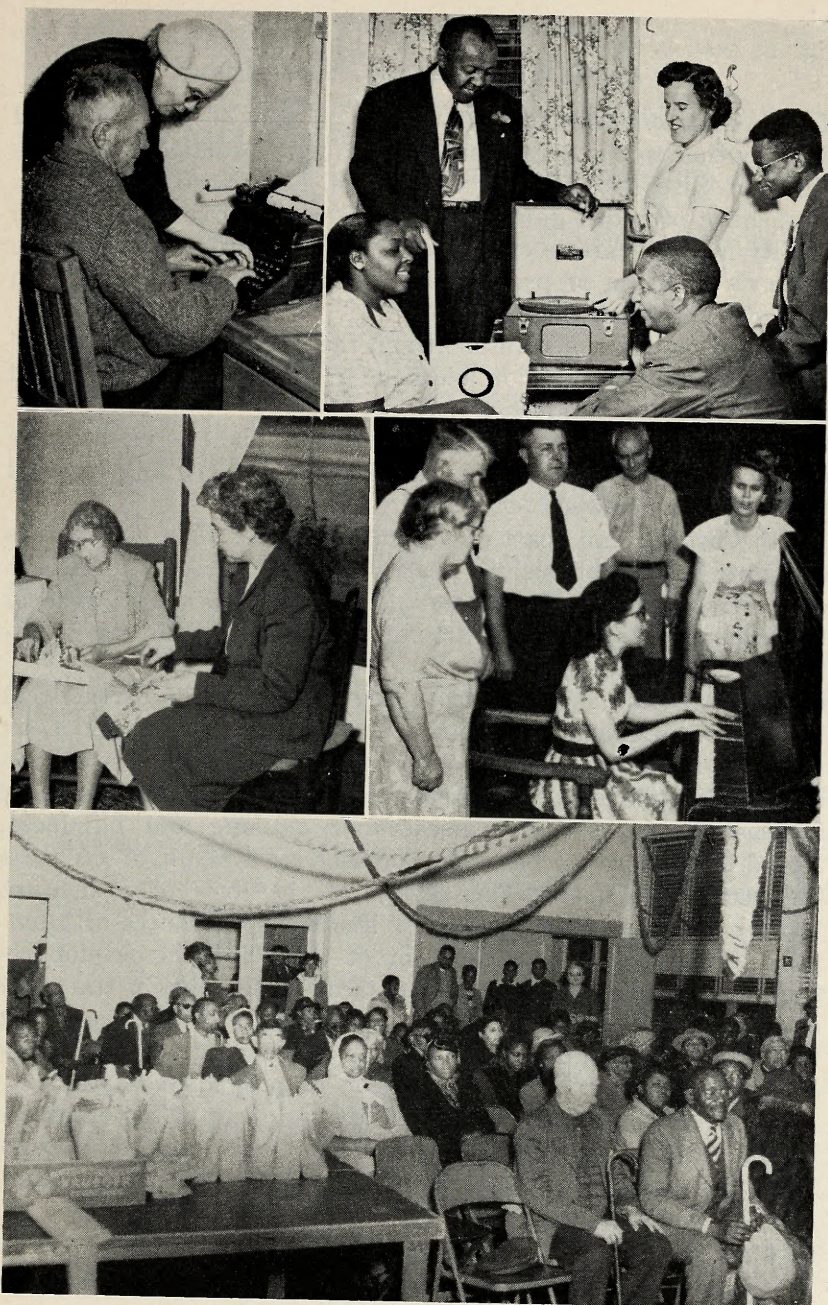
A preliminary study of Aid to the Blind recipients who were earning a part of their income as of September 1950 was made during the biennium. This survey revealed that 527 Aid to the Blind recipients in North Carolina were earning a part of their living. *The Study of Earned Income of Recipients of Aid to the Blind in September 1950*, made by the Federal Security Agency on a national level showed that North Carolina had the highest percentage of Aid to the Blind recipients who were earning a part of their living.

Many blind persons and others working with the blind have long held the belief that our methods of administering Aid to the Blind have thwarted the efforts of rehabilitation of the blind in that each time the AB recipient earns a dollar, his AB payment is reduced a dollar. Thus, regardless of how hard the blind person may work, his efforts can never improve his standard of living above that of "Relief status." This plan and provision exempting up to \$50.00 a month earned income provides incentive and encouragement to the AB recipient to better his status and to improve his standard of living. It also promotes complete cooperation between the administering of financial assistance and the efforts towards the rehabilitation of the blind individual.

The Chart, Appendix I, shows known number of Blind in the State, 10,318; data given by Counties.



Blind Musician—Case Worker Instructs in Using Talking Book Machine



SPECIALIZED SERVICES

THE MEDICAL DIVISION

ANNIE RUTH PENNEY, *Supervisor*

The Commission for the Blind owes a debt of gratitude and appreciation to the physicians of the state practicing the specialty of Diseases of the Eye and Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat. They have provided guidance to the Medical Division and high quality medical care to clients applying for services through the agency's program of prevention of blindness, sight restoration and conservation of vision.

Improved methods of treatment and the use of "Miracle Drugs" have given new inspiration and hope to those who are interested in prevention of blindness.

Some physicians claim that blindness from diabetic retinopathy need not occur if the disease is discovered early and faithful treatment is followed.

North Carolina can boast of a greater number than ever before of highly trained physicians practicing the specialty of Diseases of the Eye and Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat. This makes medical treatment available in all parts of the state. Serious eye conditions need not go untreated.

Owing to the fine immunization program carried on by the local Health Departments, blindness from infectious diseases is on the decline. Another side of the picture, however, is not so bright. The life span has been increased, with a corresponding increase in degenerative diseases of old age and blindness. Hereditary blindness has not decreased as a result of progress in medical treatment. The saving of the lives of premature infants weighing three pounds or less is a new source of blindness. About twenty-five per cent of these infants develop retrolental fibroplasia. Extensive research on the part of the finest scientific minds in our country has failed to find a treatment that prevents blindness, once the disease has started. The present approach is to stress prevention of premature births.

National surveys have shown that fifty per cent of the blindness in this country could have been prevented or postponed. Reasons are listed below why blindness was not prevented in a study made of specific cases:

1. Failure to recognize early symptoms.
2. Delay in consulting an eye physician or failure to understand the importance of early treatment of serious symptoms.

3. Failure to recognize the importance of medical care in failing eye sight.
4. Clients first sought treatment from a non-medical practitioner or a physician of internal medicine.

The following suggestions are offered for prevention of blindness:

1. Any redness of the eye is a serious symptom. Consult your eye physician.
2. A thorough medical eye examination at least every two years, especially after the age of forty.
3. Consult an eye physician for even a slight eye injury.
4. Consult an eye physicians or hospital medical school eye clinic for any acute pain or inflammatory condition of the eyeball or eyelid.
5. Consult an eye physician as soon as any failing vision in one or both eyes is discovered.

The Commission for the Blind recommends more eye health education for lay groups and for public health personnel.

The fact that one person in North Carolina is needlessly blind demands research and study in preventable blindness and greater interest and continued cooperation on the part of all those administering health services.

SERVICES OFFERED BY MEDICAL DIVISION

I. Eye Examination and Treatment.

A. Physicians' offices—By appointment through local Departments of Public Welfare or special arrangement.

B. Group eye clinics.

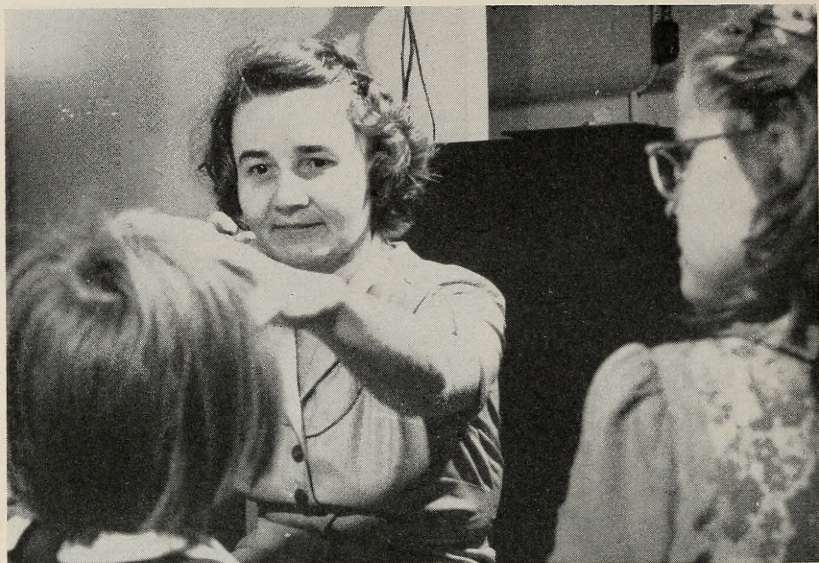
1. Arranged in counties where medical eye care is not available locally.
2. Children and adults are admitted on a needs basis, certification made by local Departments of Public Welfare.
3. Clinic eye examinations made by eye physicians.
4. Participating agencies.
 - a. Local Welfare Department.
 - (1) Certificates on needs basis.
 - (2) Takes applications for clinic services.
 - (3) Gives active support to clinic by assisting in planning for physical setup and assisting in providing for clerical help.
 - (4) Plans jointly with Health Department for transportation.

- b. Health Department.
 - (1) School screening for eye defects.
 - (2) Furnishes list of names of children to the Welfare Department for certification on the basis of need.
 - (3) Public Health Personnel assists in operation of the clinic.
 - (4) Assists Welfare Department in planning transportation to and from the clinic for services.
- c. Commission for the Blind.
 - Area Physical Restoration Nurse is responsible for the following services:
 - (1) Over-all joint planning for the group eye clinic.
 - (2) Securing the services of an eye physician to do the eye examinations.
 - (3) Securing the services of an optician to furnish frames, take frame measurements, copy doctor's prescriptions for glasses, have lenses ground, furnish glasses cases and see that glasses are properly made up and delivered.
 - (4) Worker is present at the clinic for the purpose of coordinating and supervising the over-all functioning of the group clinic.
- C. Sustaining eye clinics.
 - 1. Services offered on an area basis by appointment.
 - 2. Supervised by one or more physicians who are Diplomats of the American Board of Ophthalmology.
 - 3. Financing shared by local Lions Clubs and the Commission for the Blind.
 - 4. Number and location.
 - a. Asheville, City Hall.
 - b. Charlotte, Professional Building.
 - c. Raleigh, Rex Hospital.
- II. Follow-Up Work.
 - A. Surgery is done by eye physicians who are American Board Diplomats or eye physicians who are accepted applicants for American Board examinations.
 - B. Hospitalization and surgery financed by the Commission for the Blind.
- III. Glasses: The State Commission for the Blind secures glasses at special rates from wholesale optical companies for local agencies and Lions Clubs. Glasses are paid for locally and by the North Carolina State Association for the Blind.
- IV. Sponsorship of Sight-Saving Classes.

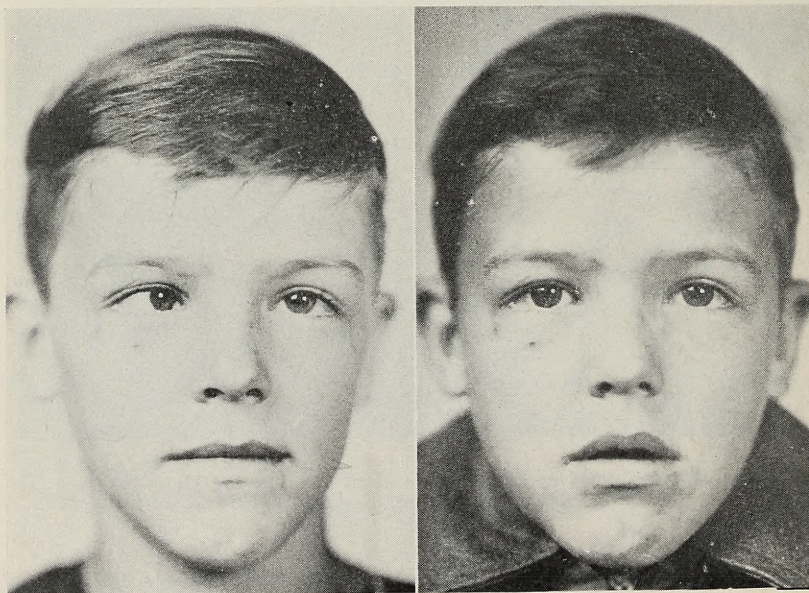
The Chart, Appendix II, reveals data on the 32,669 indigent persons examined by Eye Physicians during the Biennium; data given by Counties.



Scenes from Variety Club Clinic Held Weekly for Both White and Colored, Charlotte, N. C.



*Eye Examination—Variety Club Clinic
Charlotte, N. C.*



Before

SQUINT OPERATION

After

SERVICES FOR CHILDREN



Foster Mother Cares for Blind Children

The Medical and Social Service Divisions offer special services to North Carolina children. These services include:

- General Medical Examinations
- Medical Eye Examinations
- Eye Surgery and Treatment
- Medical Eye Care Follow-up
- Consultation

Home visits to encourage the parents to take advantage of opportunities offered, to send blind children to the State School for the Blind.

Participation in the Joint School Health Program

Referral to Sight Saving Classes

Referral to The State School for the Blind

Services to the Pre-school Child:

Eye Examinations

Surgery

Treatment

Pre-School Institute for Mothers of Blind Children:

The third annual Conference for Mothers of Pre-School Blind Children was held in August, 1952. For a number of years, leaders in work for the blind in North Carolina have recognized the need and importance of having such a Conference. The officials of the North Carolina State School for the Blind and the North Carolina State Commission for the Blind, the two State agencies whose legal responsibility is work for the blind, had conferred, discussed and tried to find funds in their budgets for this undertaking. No State funds were available and so the Summer Conference remained an unmet need of the total program for the blind. Early in 1950 the North Carolina State Association for the Blind was approached and the proposed project and its importance outlined.

The North Carolina State Association is a non-profit, lay group whose sole reason for existence is furthering work for the blind state-wide. This Association was organized in 1934 by prominent Lions and other interested groups and individuals to work for a state-sponsored agency which would devote full time to the work for the blind and visually handicapped. Its efforts met with success and in March, 1935, the North Carolina State Commission for the Blind was created by legislative enactment. With the background of such achievement in work for the blind, the North Carolina State Association was sympathetic to the need and made funds available for the Conference; thus, the first Summer Conference was held in 1950.

The Conference is, therefore, jointly sponsored by the North Carolina State Association for the Blind, the North Carolina State School for the Blind and the North Carolina State Commission for the Blind. The School furnishes the physical set-up, staff and supervision; the Commission furnishes the staff to locate the pre-school blind children in the State, to report these

and to work with the mothers who are scheduled to attend, also, the Commission staff is used during the Conference and the North Carolina State Association for the Blind furnishes funds for maintenance and transportation for the mothers and babies, buys books, toys and pays for staff members.

PRE-SCHOOL OPERATIVE SERVICES—1951-52

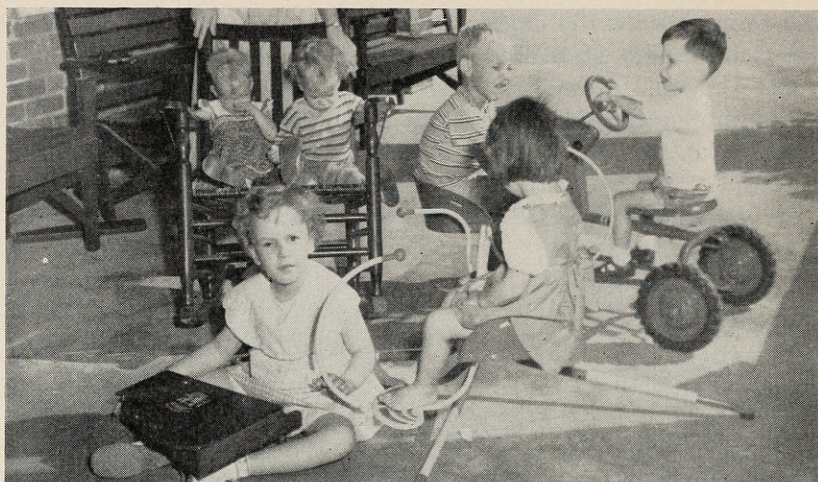
Squint Operations	60
Congenital Cataracts	28
Congenital Glaucoma	6
Enucleations	5
Chalazion Removed	2
Ptosis	5
Retrolental Fibrophasia	5
Treatment and other defects	16
TOTAL	127

MADELINE P. MCCRARY



BABY IN BED

*Youngest Baby at Summer Institute for Mothers of Pre-School
Blind Children*



1. *White Children at Summer Institute for Mothers of Blind Children*
2. *Colored Children at Summer Institute*
3. *Twins, Blind from Birth, at Summer Institute*

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION DIVISION

The term Rehabilitation has various connotations and usages. It is a word that has come into general use in the past 30 years. As applied to agencies who work with disabled persons in the Vocational Rehabilitation Program, its meaning is this—Vocational Rehabilitation is the acceptance of a disabled or handicapped person as he is and the preparation for employment through various services such as physical restoration, adjustment training, vocational training, placement, etc., which is in keeping with his capacities and abilities. The basic concept of Vocational Rehabilitation is to assist an handicapped person to become a productive member of society.

Recently Mr. John L. McCaffrey, President of the International Harvester Company, stated that "We try to look at the individual in hiring, in training, in job assignment and in up-grading. We are more interested in knowing what he can do instead of what he cannot do. We try to train the individual for the kind of job he can do and then find ways to help him do it better."

In Vocational Rehabilitation it's the individual and what he can do that counts; it is his ability and not his disability that makes him employable.

The Vocational Rehabilitation of the State Commission for the Blind is comprised of five major units, all of which work together to find, counsel, guide, render physical restoration services and/or train a blind person for employment. The five major units are:

- 1.—General Rehabilitation Services, consisting of counseling, planning, placement and post placement supervision.
- 2.—Adjustment and Prevocational Training secured at the North Carolina Rehabilitation Center for the Blind at Butner, N. C.
- 3.—Home Industry training secured through the Specialist in Home Industries.
- 4.—Workshop training secured through the five Workshops.
- 5.—Stand Operation training secured through the Bureau of Employment for the Blind.

I. GENERAL REHABILITATION SERVICES

BRITT L. GREEN, *Supervisor*

The First World War brought to focus the need of retraining our war veterans, later consideration was given to the general population and the thousands of handicapped persons among it, who could become self-supporting if given proper physical restoration and training. Rehabilitation services began in 1920, but it was not until 1943 that the Congress made into law a bill sponsored by our own Congressman, Graham Barden. Mr. Barden was co-author of the Barden-LaFollette Bill which became known as Public Law 113.

Public Law 113 was a Bill of Rights for the handicapped of the Nation and started a Nation-Wide work for the mentally and physically handicapped. The Congress made funds available for the work, the North Carolina General Assembly matched the funds of Congress, and for the first time in the history of America, the handicapped had the doors of work opportunities opened wide.

General rehabilitation involves certain processes, the most important of these are (1) Case Finding, (2) Counseling and Guidance, (3) Training, (4) Placement and (5) Post Placement Supervision.

1.—Case Finding: All the services available to the visually handicapped cannot be rendered until the person has been found. The first job of the General Rehabilitation Division is to find the individual so that he may accept or reject the services that are offered to each handicapped person in the State. After a person is found, he must be interviewed to see if he has rehabilitation potentialities. Rehabilitation looks at the Total Man—In the light of employability considering these characteristics; Physical ability to work, mental and educational ability to learn and to hold a job, personality equal to employment and skill in a job or ability to render service which someone is willing to buy.

2.—Counseling and Guidance: The aim of vocational counseling is to help the client in his choice of a suitable employment objective, in planning his preparation for such employment and in achieving those attitudes which will bring success and satisfaction in his job. Counseling is based on an understanding of the "whole" individual with due regard to individual differences and the fact that the client is the one to be served. It is he who

is to be made self-maintaining by the processes of rehabilitation. Every effort must be expended to remove or attempt to remove the handicap. Physical restoration is the first step after a client has been accepted by the counselor for rehabilitation services, not only physical but mental restoration or improvement is given due regard.

The role of counselor in rehabilitation is most important—He is dealing with a human life, he is having a part in the plans of a human—Only counselors skilled in the techniques of such an art should be entrusted with so great a task.

3.—Training: On the completion of a plan and objective for rehabilitation, the third step is training. This may take many channels, such as training for stand operation, in workshops, industry, colleges and universities. The counselor is responsible for the type and quality of training rendered. He should keep constant watch to see that the client is receiving the kind of training which will fit him for remunerative employment. Eventual employment is the motivation of all rehabilitation.

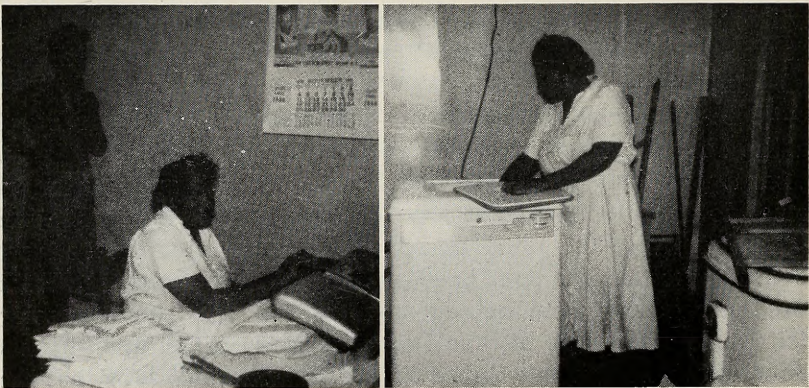
4.—Placement: All the above mentioned processes in rehabilitation must lead to the goal of placement in a job, occupation or profession; job placement which will allow the handicapped individual to use all of his abilities and develop his capabilities. Through the years of human progress, development and interpretation, it has been conclusively proven that blind persons do not want to beg, that begging is an insult to any self-respecting blind person. It has also been generally conceded at this point that blind people are capable of working and earning a living; therefore, finding new and better opportunities for employment of the blind is a most important work of General Rehabilitation.

5.—Post Placement Supervision. The last of the major steps in the rehabilitation processes is Post Placement Supervision. After a person is placed, he needs guidance and supervision to some degree to insure steady progress. The Rehabilitation Counselor visits the blind person at regular intervals as long as this is needed for continued success and development. With noted progress in the management of his job, the counselor visits at less frequent intervals or when he is called upon by his client. Post Placement Supervision continues as long as the client operates or performs on the job. The aim of Rehabilitation is not only to set one blind person up in a job, but also to find new job opportunities for the blind.

Under the Barden Rehabilitation Act, the Vocational Rehabilitation Division of the Federal Security Agency pays $\frac{1}{2}$ of the rehabilitation case service cost of physical restoration, training, placement, etc., for blind people who are considered to be employable and all the cost of rehabilitation administration, vocational guidance and placement staff. The Federal Vocational Rehabilitation Division supervises the rehabilitation program for the blind and serves as an office of clearance and exchange of new and successful ideas and methods of rehabilitation.

The co-operation between the North Carolina State School for the Blind and the Rehabilitation Division of the Commission for the Blind is paying rich dividends to the graduates of the State School. The Rehabilitation Division considers the State School graduates as one of its most important sources of referral for potential Rehabilitation clients.

Recently a survey of students was made on the graduates of the white School for the Blind. These interesting facts were revealed: 40% are engaged in the commercial field; 19% in social work; 7% in mattress and chair work; 4% in religious work; 2% in agricultural work; 2% at the Rehabilitation Center; 2% in workshops; 7% in music and related fields; 7% teaching field; 7% field of recreation; 2% in Law; 2% housewife; 2% unemployed; 2% still in college; 4% unknown. 45% of all graduates from the State School have received college training or are in college now.



Client Trained and Now Operating a Commercial Laundry

According to statistics from the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation there were 6425 blind persons rehabilitated into employment during the 1950-52 period.

North Carolina rehabilitated 672 or 10% of this number and again leads the nation in placement of blind persons in employment.

STATISTICS ON THE 672 BLIND PERSONS REHABILITATED INTO EMPLOYMENT. PERIOD JULY 1, 1950 THROUGH JULY 30, 1952

Year 1950-1951—TOTAL NUMBER OF REHABILITANTS: 308

Number of Males	175
Number of Females	133
Number of Whites	205
Number of Negroes	103
Average Education at Survey	6.4
Average Age When Accepted for Rehabilitation Services	42.83
Average number of months cases were serviced by the Rehabilitation Division	15.35
Average number of months in training	2.9
Average cost for case services (does not include Administration) ..	\$340.78
Average weekly wage when accepted as a Rehabilitation Client....	\$ 4.35
Average weekly wage when closed as employed and rehabilitated....	\$ 23.18

Year 1951-1952—TOTAL NUMBER OF REHABILITANTS: 364

Number of Males	198
Number of Females	166
Number of Whites	259
Number of Negroes	104
Number of Indians	1
Average Education at Survey	6.1
Average age when accepted for Rehabilitation Services	42
Average number of months in Service	21.3
Average number of months in training	2.7
Average cost for case services (does not include Administration) ..	\$397.18
Average weekly wage when accepted as a Rehabilitation Client....	\$ 3.68
Average weekly wage when closed as employed and rehabilitated....	\$ 21.32

TOTAL AVERAGES FOR THE TWO YEARS

July 1, 1950 - June 30, 1952

Number of Males	373
Number of Females	299
Number of White Persons	464
Number of Negroes	207
Number of Indians	1
Average Education at Survey	6.2
Average age when accepted for Rehabilitation Services	42.41
Average number of months cases were serviced by the Rehabilitation Divisions	18.32

Average number of months in training	2.8
Average cost of case services (does not include Administration)...	\$368.98
Average weekly wage when accepted as a Rehabilitation Client....	\$ 4.01
Average weekly wage when closed as employed and rehabilitated...	\$ 22.25

REHABILITATION SERVICES PAY DIVIDENDS

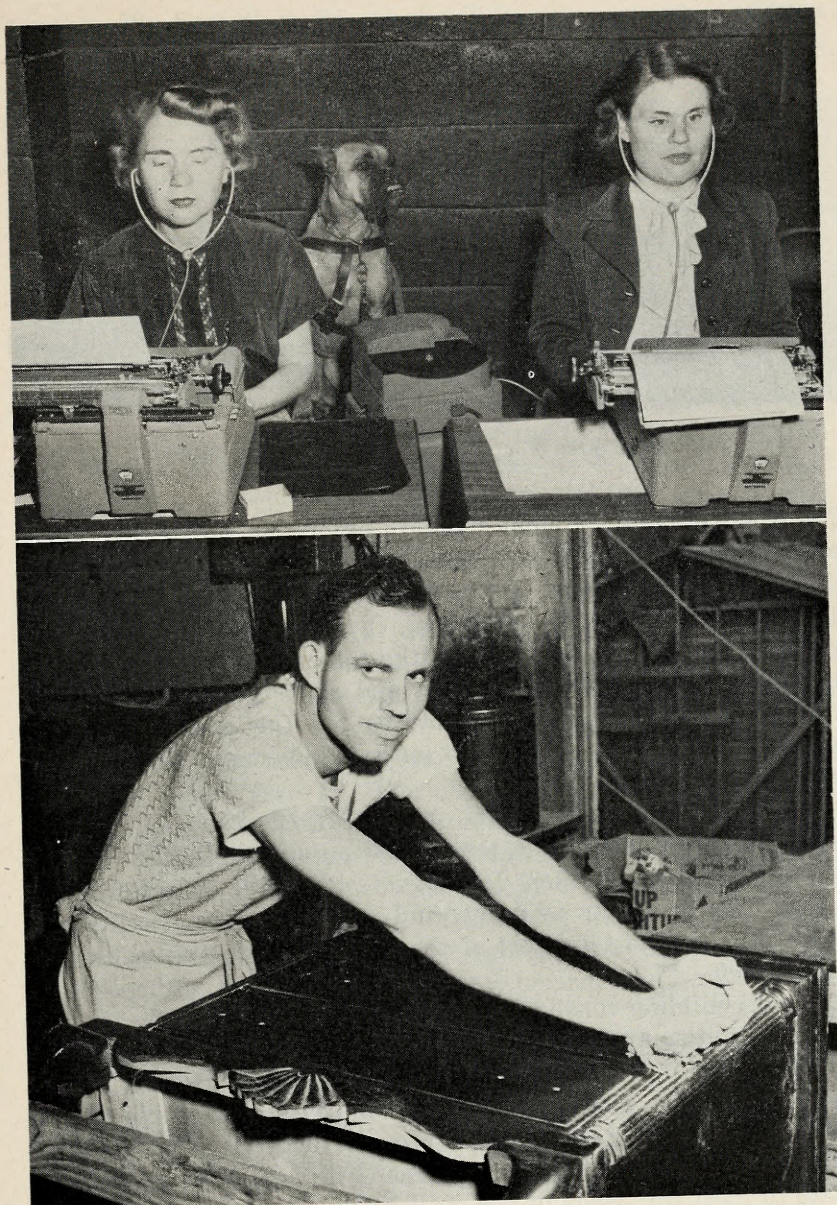
Statistics on the Occupational Groups of the 672 Rehabilitated Blind Persons for the Period July 1, 1950, Through June 30, 1952

Type of Job	Number	Per Cent
Professional and Semi-Professional.....	30	4%
Managerial and Sales	86	13
Skilled	34	5
Semi-Skilled	51	8
Unskilled	67	10
Service Jobs	43	6
Sheltered Work Shops and Craft Workers	64	10
Farmers, Housewives, Helpers, Housekeepers	297	44
Totals	672	100%

MADLINE P. MCCRARY



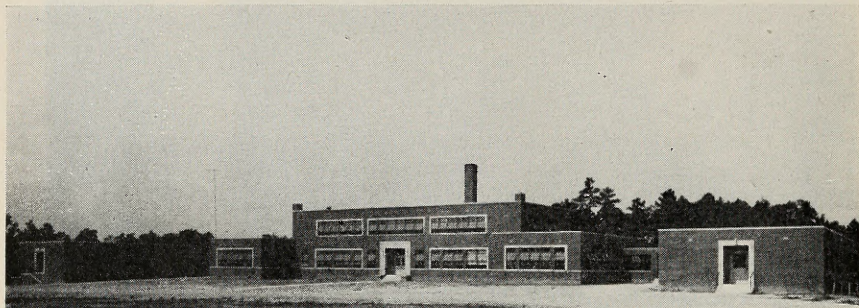
Blind Man Manages and Operates Florist Shop



1. *Medical Transcriptionists Employed by Baptist Hospital, Winston-Salem, N. C.*
2. *Sanding and Finishing Furniture, Sanford, N. C.*

THE NORTH CAROLINA REHABILITATION CENTER

HELEN CUTTING, *Superintendent*



Rehabilitation Center Now Housed in Newly Completed Building

The North Carolina Rehabilitation Center was created by legislative enactment in 1945 and began operation in November, 1945. The establishment of the Rehabilitation Center for Adult Blind was the fulfillment of a long cherished idea and the realization of a great unmet need in the total program of work for the blind. Indeed, the orientation and adjustment to blindness which the Center program provides for the adult blind has enabled many blind persons to enter employment and become self-supporting.

From November, 1945, until August, 1952, the Center was housed in most unsuitable temporary buildings, loaned by one agency and then another. In August, 1952, the Rehabilitation Center moved into its own new and modern building located at Butner, N. C. The total cost of the building and equipment was \$428,771.00.

The main building consists of administrative offices, class rooms, dining facilities and recreation rooms for both races. The wings on either end of the main building are the dormitories for white and colored. The picture of the new building appears above and represents the interest of the State of North Carolina in providing services to its blinded citizens. The new building is adequate to meet the needs of the student body and is probably the most modern Rehabilitation Center for the Blind in the entire nation.

The pressing need now is for that of staff houses or quarters to provide living accommodations for the instructors and Superin-

tendent. We hope that this need will be met soon, for without properly trained staff the usefulness of the Center could not be achieved.

Many states do not have Rehabilitation Centers for the Blind, therefore, our Rehabilitation Center is being used to a small degree by other states. Out-of-state students are admitted only when there are no North Carolina blind on the waiting list. This is a Rehabilitation Center for North Carolinians and their needs supercede all others.

Since the Rehabilitation Center has been functioning for seven years, the basic courses offered to the students are rather well established at this time and fewer changes are made than in the beginning. Some of the courses offered at the present time are:

1. Orientation to the physical set-up of the Center and surroundings,
2. Travel techniques,
3. Adjustment,
4. Continuation of counseling,
5. Psychological tests, measurements, etc.,
6. Personality adjustment,
7. Stand training and employment practices,
8. Basic courses in personal hygiene, table etiquette, etc.,
9. Home economics and housekeeping,
10. Academic courses such as English, spelling, arithmetic, Braille, typing and transcribing,
11. Craft courses,
12. Sewing,
13. Woodshop,
14. Automotive repair,
15. Electrical appliance repair,
16. Laundry courses.

One innovation in the travel courses has been introduced by the travel instructor recently. The use of Walkie-Talkies in travel training, particularly when the student takes travel tests in the near-by cities has proven most helpful and successful and it is believed that it will become a real tool in travel techniques.

The following charts present statistics on the biennium period and will give some idea as to the number of students, age, sex, etc., attending the Center during this period.

STATISTICS—July 1, 1950 - June 30, 1952, on Students at the Rehabilitation Center

Total Number of Students..157	Urban	68
Number of Counties represented	Single	99
82	Married	39
Average Age	Other	19
33.5	Average Education	7.2
Males	Average I. Q.	87.5
100	Age at Onset of Blindness:	
Females	0-4	81
57	5-14	12
White		
91		
Negro		
66		
Rural		
89		

15-24	25	Mechanic	1
25-44	25	Fireman	1
45-64	14	Housekeeper	1
Causes of Blindness:		Minister	1
Disease	152	Teacher	1
Accident	8	Transcriptionist	1
Congenital	31	Presser	1
Inherited	26	Cook	1
Degree of Vision—Present:		Poultry Farmer	1
Total-Total	86	Average Number of Months at	
Total-Partial	39	the Rehabilitation Center...	5.65
Partial-Partial	32	Follow-Up Training:	
Sources of Support When		Workshop	18
Student Entered Center:		Stand	15
Public Relief	49	Home Industry	1
Family	86	Other	8
Self	14	Number Employed	44
Friends	3	Still in Training	43
Retirement	1	Unemployed	69
Insurance	1	Deceased	1
Savings	1	Types of Employment of	
Compensation	2	the 44 Employed:	
Previous Employment:		Family Worker	2
Workshop	1	Instructor	1
Odd Jobs	2	Stand Operator	
Inspector	1	and Manager	8
No Job	29	Workshop	6
Switchboard Operator	2	Hospital Orderly	1
Laborer	33	Housewife	2
Family Worker	13	Mophead Trimmer	1
Truck Driver	1	Soldier	1
Domestic	7	Service Station Operator ..	1
Seamstress	1	Seamstress	1
Managerial	6	Packer	2
Sales Work	8	Laborer	3
Packer	1	Managerial	5
Porter	3	Broom Corn Cutter	1
Farmer	20	Maintenance Helper	1
Textile	8	Furniture Factory Worker..	1
Fishing	1	Medical Transcriptionist ..	1
Saw Mill	4	Craftshop (Own)	4
Clerical	6	Farmer	1
Mattress Worker	1	Tourist Court Operator ...	1

In the 1948-50 biennial we presented statistics concerning the employment of Center students who attended the Center during this time. In June, 1952, we made a follow-up study which disclosed these facts:

June, 1949	
Number Employed	36
Number Unemployed	33
Number in Training	16
Number Left State	1

Total 86

June, 1950	
Number Employed	21
Number Unemployed	39
Number in Training	34
Number Left State	1

Total 95

June, 1951	
Number Employed	64
Number Unemployed	20
Number in Training	0
Number Left State	2

Total 86

June, 1952	
Number Employed	66
Number Unemployed	25
Number in Training	2
Number Left State	2

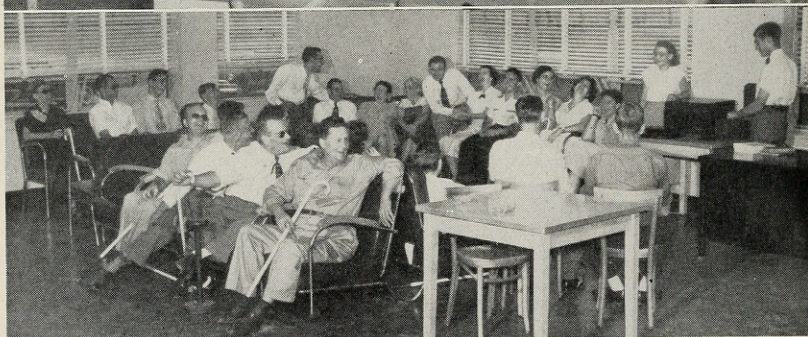
Total 95

With this follow-up study we found as time went on that a great many more were placed in employment and we feel that this is more evidence that the training at the Center is worthwhile in a total Rehabilitation program.

MADLINE P. MCCRARY



Wood Working Shop Training—Rehabilitation Center



1. Using "Walkie Talkie"—Rehabilitation Center
2. Cafeteria—Rehabilitation Center
3. Recreation Room—Rehabilitation Center

HOME INDUSTRIES

LAURA E. MERCHANT

Specialist in Workshop and Home Industries

Eighty home bound blind persons are now producing salable articles, in sixty counties. Fifty four clients are in training. Over \$16,000.00 was paid to the home bound workers since March 1950.

Many of these workers are now entirely self supporting, buy their materials and develop a local sales outlet, with the assistance and guidance of the Home Industry Counselor. From others the finished articles are bought and stored for use in Exhibits, County Fairs and various sales conducted by different civic groups.

A recently blinded man was given adjustment training at the Rehabilitation Center, upon returning home he was assisted in starting a small concrete plant, making urns, bird baths etc. He now has a good business in this, also he is weaving rugs and operating a small roadside shop, which serves as an outlet for the products of other home bound blind who are unable to create a local market.



Blind Man Works in Small Nursery



1. *Learning to Use Sewing Machine by Touch*
2. *Rug Weaving Is a Pleasant and Profitable Occupation for This Blind Woman*

A young lady was trained in weaving and wood carving at the John C. Campbell Folk School. She is kept busy weaving bags, place mats and carving ducks, squirrels, puppies and other small animals.

The satisfaction of producing well made useful articles means more, in many cases, than the remuneration derived therefrom.

WORKSHOPS

LAURA E. MERCHANT

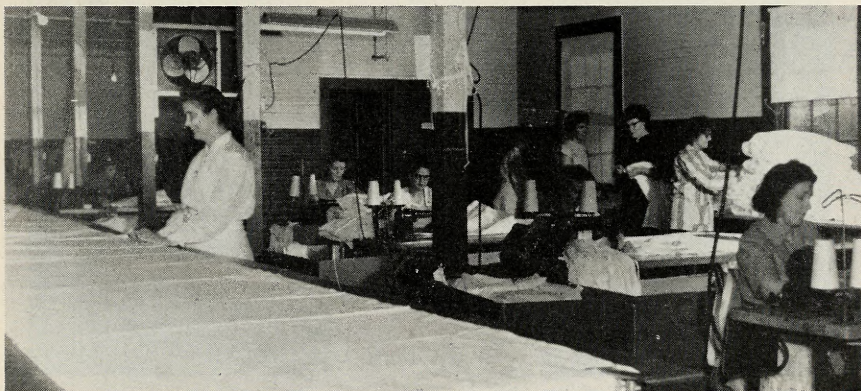
Specialist in Workshop and Home Industries

WORKSHOPS: One hundred and five blind persons were given employment in the five workshops through the past biennium. Total earnings were \$227,975.54, an average of \$22.19 per week. Total gross sales of the five shops was \$2,216,078.60.

ASHEVILLE WORKSHOP: An upholstery department has been added, providing work for more blind persons and also is used as a training unit for Home Industry clients.

New modern mattress making equipment has been purchased for the shop. A new roof put on the building and a new oil burning furnace installed.

DURHAM WORKSHOP: The demand for felt exceeding the output justified the changing of the building to accommodate additional machinery for the manufacturing of felt, which is furnished the other workshops using felt in the making of mattresses. All types of mattresses are manufactured in this shop. Sixteen blind persons are given regular employment.



Pillow Case Department, Charlotte Workshop

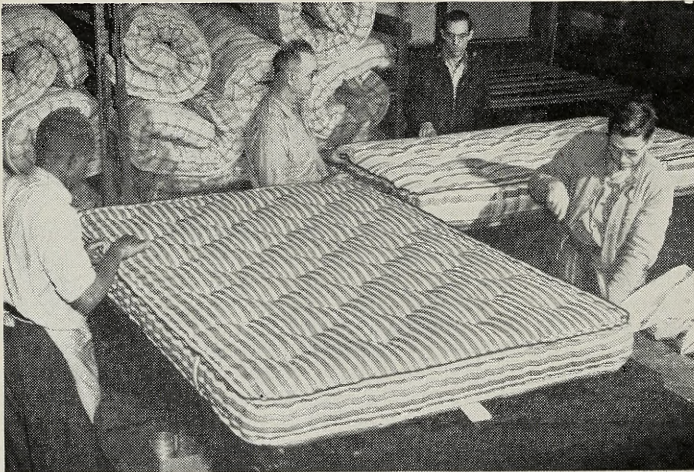
CHARLOTTE WORKSHOP: The building used in the manufacturing of pillow cases, mops, aprons and mailing bags, has been put in good repair and a large storage room added, giving more space in the production department. Twenty one blind persons are employed here.

GREENSBORO WORKSHOP: Fifty two blind persons are employed making brooms, mops, mop handles, rubber door mats, baskets and caning chairs. The average weekly earnings are \$33.75.

An automatic broom stitcher and other modern equipment has been purchased for the speeding up of production. Local business as Club sales and Federal Contracts are the sales outlets.

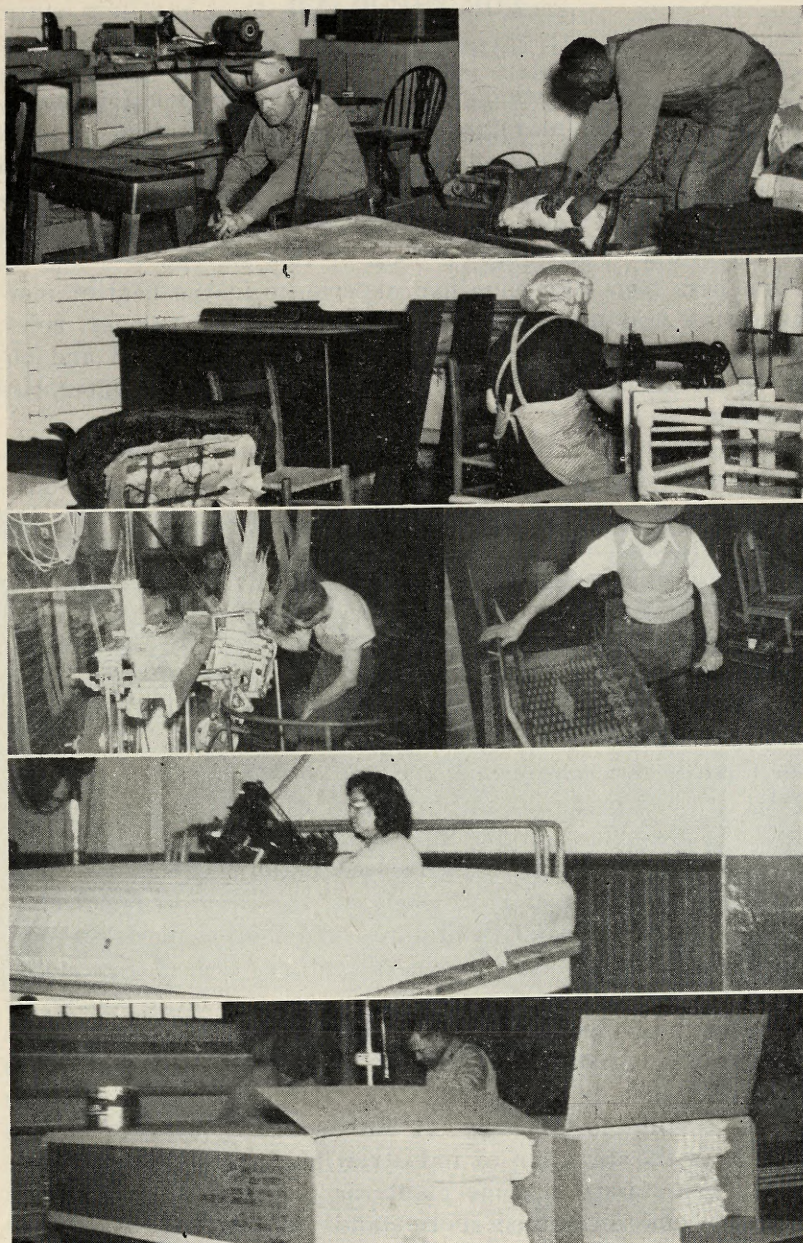
WINSTON-SALEM WORKSHOP: Is housed in a building provided by the local Lions Club. Repairs to the building have recently been made.

Mattresses are manufactured for local trade and Federal Contracts, also furniture repair is done. New modern equipment has been provided for this shop.



Mattress Construction Winston-Salem Workshop

SCENES IN WORKSHOPS



NORTH CAROLINA BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT FOR THE BLIND

R. H. LLEWELLYN, *Supervisor*

Pursuant to the law which placed upon the Commission the responsibility for maintaining employment opportunities for blind individuals who are able to work but unable to find placement in outside employment, the Commission established by resolution an auxiliary division known as The Bureau of Employment for the Blind. The advisory body of this Bureau is made up of business men who have had experience in the field of merchandising and who advise the Commission on policies, rules, regulations and practices which should be established and observed in the operation of a successful business enterprise program.

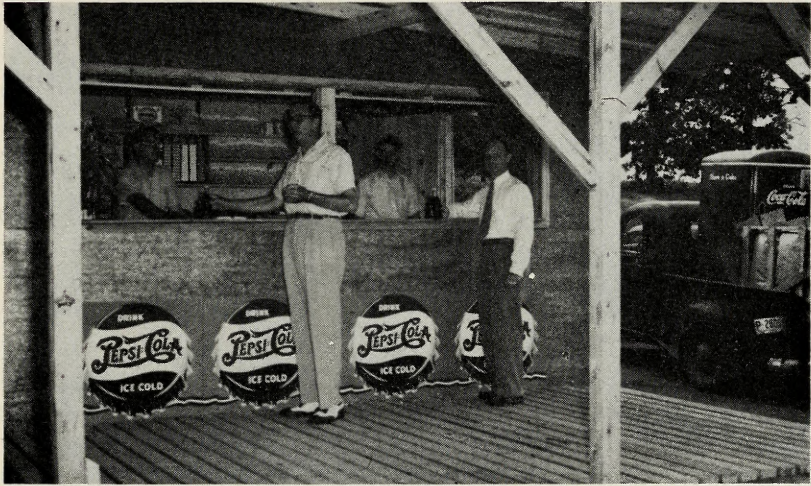
The function of the Bureau is to accept blind and visually handicapped persons for training and employment in types of businesses that are considered feasible for blind persons. During the training period these blind people are taught the basic principles of retailing such as customer approach, display, buying and keeping of adequate reports. At the end of the training period the blind person is given employment in one of the existing units of the Bureau. The blind person is put on a salary based on his ability and success as an operator and salary adjustments are made at regular intervals.

The Bureau was established in 1943 and has taken advantage of the existing Federal and State laws which permit concession stands to be placed in public buildings such as Post Offices, Custom Houses, Court Houses, State buildings, etc. Before a stand can be placed in such locations, the same analysis must be made to determine the suitability and the prognosis for success as would in any other business venture. Unless the number of persons working in the proposed location is large enough or the traffic in and out the building sufficient, the location must be rejected. This accounts for the fact that many smaller cities do not have stands in public buildings. The present need of the Bureau is suitable locations for stands and it is felt that this must be in the direction of industrial plants and the like. The Bureau has stands in some plants as pictured on these pages but is anxious to establish more stands of this type. All stands

operated by the Bureau of Employment are supervised by trained staff and meet standard requirements.

The total sales of the 78 stands during the 1950-52 period amounted to \$1,496,160.00. Salaries paid to the operators amounted to \$273,588.00. The Bureau provides its operators with paid vacation leave, free hospitalization and an opportunity to obtain life insurance under a group plan. The pictures show some of the newer stands which the Bureau operates throughout the State.

MADELINE P. MCCRARY



Outside Vending Stand in Industrial Plant, Hickory, N. C., Serving Approximately 400 Employees Daily



1. New Hanover County Court House, Wilmington, N. C.
2. Robeson County Court House, Lumberton, N. C.
3. City Hall, Winston-Salem, N. C.

ASSISTANCE AND CO-OPERATION FROM OTHER AGENCIES, GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS

The data presented in this report has shown the assistance and co-operation received by the North Carolina State Commission for the Blind from the Federal Security Agency, the County Commissioners and County Welfare Departments, the Lions Clubs and the North Carolina State Association for the Blind. It should again be emphasized that the blind people of North Carolina have reaped the benefits of this aid and that because of it the Commission has been able to expand its services to the blind.

There are other groups and individuals who have greatly contributed to the activities in work for the blind. The majority of these have already been mentioned elsewhere but because of the quality of the contribution recognition is again given:

EYE PHYSICIANS—North Carolina is most fortunate in having Eye Physicians located in the various sections of the State who are giving unsparingly of their time and skill to prevent blindness and wherever possible to conserve sight and to restore vision. These Eye Physicians give to the needy cases recommended to their care the same highly skilled, professional services received by private patients. Without the very fine co-operation and unselfishness of these Eye Physicians it would be impossible to have a program of prevention in North Carolina. The Commission is also indebted to the many private physicians who give treatment to persons referred for general medical attention by the Eye Physicians. The eye difficulties of these patients are the result of disease or abnormal conditions in other parts of the body, for the eye is often called “a thermometer to bodily conditions.” Many indigent persons with defective vision coming under the care of the Commission have diseases of the blood vessels, kidneys, brain or other parts of the body which are first discovered by Eye Physicians. Diseased tonsils and other bodily infections in children are so often the cause of impaired vision which condition if not detected by an Eye Physician and corrected may weaken the efficiency not only of the eye but of other vital organs of the body.

OTHER AGENCIES AND INDIVIDUALS

The State Federation of Woman's Clubs has taken work for the blind as one of its major projects. Individual Club women are

rendering personal services to the blind as a part of their general program. The Junior Woman's Club is most active in work for the blind.

The State Board of Public Welfare, the State Department of Public Instruction, the State Board of Health, the County School and Health Officials, the Local Private Welfare Agencies and Hospitals have given valuable assistance in the development of services for the blind.

The State School for the Blind has given splendid co-operation to the Commission in the development of its program.

Rotary, Kiwanis, American Business Men's Clubs, the Variety Clubs, Exchange Clubs, P.-T. A.'s and other organizations have co-operated in the local communities with the work for the blind program.

The following organizations outside the State aid the Commission in the development of its work: The American Foundation for the Blind, the National Industries for the Blind, the National Society for the Prevention of Blindness, The Seeing Eye, Inc. and the National Rehabilitation Association.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The preceding report of the work of the Commission has presented a brief review of the services rendered to the blind and visually handicapped of North Carolina during the past biennium. This report also calls attention to some of the unmet needs.

REQUESTED INCREASES IN APPROPRIATION FOR THE BIENNIUM 1953-54 AND 1954-55

The members of the North Carolina State Commission for the Blind appreciate the difficult problems of state financing confronting the Advisory Budget Commission. The Commission is equally aware that it is responsible under law for administering all governmentally sponsored services for the blind citizens of our state. The Budget requests represent an increase over funds previously appropriated; yet the funds requested will provide solely for urgently needed services. Only the basic needs of the blind have been included in the budget. The following increases are necessary to meet the minimum needs of the blind now known to the Commission:

First,

- A. \$16,625.00 additional State funds for the first year of the biennium and \$23,375.00 for the second year of the bien-

nium are requested to provide matching funds for our Rehabilitation services available under Federal legislation. These funds are necessary to provide medical examinations, surgery, hospitalization, vocational training, training, maintenance, transportation, prosthetic devices and customary occupational tools and placement equipment. The Commission rehabilitated into employment 672 blind persons during the biennial period July 1, 1950-June 30, 1952. 151 more blind persons were made employable over the previous biennium or an increase of 29%; furthermore, the number of blind persons now receiving Rehabilitation services leading to employment has increased 24% during the same period. It is sound economy in dollars and cents to rehabilitate blind persons and make them self-supporting. Emphasis has been placed on rehabilitation and not relief. The results have been most gratifying: THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE COMMISSION FOR THE BLIND HAS LED THE NATION IN THIS SERVICE CATEGORY OVER THE PAST SIX YEARS.

- B. \$31,285.00 additional State funds for each year of the biennium are requested to meet the ever increasing demand and cost of medical services under the General State Medical Program for indigent blind and visually handicapped who are not feasible for services under the Rehabilitation program.
1. Expanded clinical services for eye examinations have increased the number of indigent persons given medical eye examinations by 3,979 during the biennial period 1950-52—an increase of 14% over the biennial period 1948-50. The Medical Eye Care Program of the Commission has been expanded through the 100 County Superintendents of Public Welfare who daily refer persons to determine eligibility and continuing eligibility for Aid to the Blind, as well as other indigent persons in need of eye care. Also, the Commission for the Blind has conducted the clinical eye examinations under the Joint School Health Program and this service to the indigent school children of North Carolina is a responsibility that can be met only through increased State funds. Since the costs of glasses prescribed as a result of these eye examinations is defrayed by local

sources, the only cost to the State is the eye examination.

2. Increased eye examinations for indigent persons have uncovered a proportional increase in the number of persons requiring medical eye treatment. 5,171 indigent persons were given medical eye treatment during the biennial period 1950-52. This is an increase of 928 cases—22% over the biennial period 1948-50. The requested increase in appropriations for treatment is based upon the increase in the number of persons served plus the advanced cost for these services.
3. The average per diem hospital cost for the General State Medical Program during the past 12 months has increased as high as 37% with an average increase of 20%. This increase in per diem hospital cost, plus the increase in the number of indigent persons given medical eye care requires additional State funds. The prevention of blindness, the conservation of sight and the restoration of vision constitute the finest service the Commission for the Blind can render to visually handicapped people in need.

This is the service category which removed 2,384 persons from the classification of blindness during the biennial period 1950-52—an increase of 16% over the previous biennial period.

Second,

\$7,463.00 additional State funds are requested for the first year of the biennium and \$11,213.00 for the second year of the biennium to provide direct relief for the needy blind. These additional State funds will enable the Commission to pay 4,800 clients at a monthly average of \$40.00 for the first year and 4,850 at the same average for the second.

Third,

\$13,000.00 additional State funds are requested for County Equalization purposes. When this item was first set up in July of 1943, the Commission made payments to 2,191 recipients. This item has been increased only \$2,000.00 in spite of the fact that the Commission is now making payments to 4,500 recipients. This Equalization fund is used to assist the poorer counties in equalizing the amount of Aid to the Blind Grants.

Fourth,

\$5,000.00 additional State funds are requested for the maintenance and operation of the Pre-Conditioning Center. Funds derived from tuition charges are inadequate to meet operation costs. The present enrollment is 50 students. The rise in the cost of food and fuel necessitates an increase in the budget request.

Fifth,

\$410.00 additional State funds are requested to bring the salary of the Executive Secretary in line with other State employees having similar duties and responsibilities.

Sixth,

\$4,783.00 additional State funds are requested for the State's share of the salaries and travel of the following new employees:

- A. Stenographer Clerks I., \$1,907.00. The increase in medical services and the increase in social services requires an additional clerical worker in each division. Increased professional services always entail increased clerical work. It is administratively and economically unsound to require professional medical and social workers to keep records and to do the necessary paper work entailed that could be done more efficiently by trained clerical workers.
- B. Public Information Officer, II., \$2,226.00. Travel, \$650.00. In order to continue receiving financial support from 303 Lions Clubs and 12,000 members of the North Carolina State Association for the Blind, it is necessary that these sources be kept informed of the needs of the 10,000 blind people in North Carolina. It is necessary further that private sources supporting the work for the blind be given information as to what the Commission did with their contributions. The Lions Clubs and the State Association for the Blind and the county organizations for the blind contribute more than \$125,000.00 annually to work for the blind. The Commission cannot rightfully expect this support to continue without keeping these sources well informed. The Commission submits that \$2,876.00 funds toward the salary and travel of a Public Information Officer is a decidedly good investment and will help to insure the continued support of these organizations.

Seventh,

\$1,493.00 additional State funds for the first year of the biennium and \$2,986.00 for the second year of the biennium are requested to provide the merit salary increases.

Eighth,

\$2,032.00 additional State funds for each year of the biennium are required to provide for positions for the full biennium which were filled only part of the fiscal year 1952-53 and also to provide for the continuation of increments granted during the fiscal year 1952-53.

PERMANENT IMPROVEMENTS

Pursuant to an act of the Legislature of 1945 the North Carolina State Commission for the Blind Established a Rehabilitation Center for the purposes of training and rehabilitating newly blinded adults. Temporary quarters were utilized until August 1, 1952. On this date the Rehabilitation Center moved into its modern building. This building is adequate for administrative offices, class rooms and dormitories for the blind students.

The professional and maintenance staff continue to live in army barracks which are unsuitable as to location and for use as living quarters. We have been asked to vacate these buildings, therefore, the following requests have been submitted to the Advisory Budget Commission:

	<i>Buildings</i>	<i>Equipment</i>	<i>Total</i>
Staff Residence for			
White Employees	\$75,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$ 83,000.00
Staff Residence for			
Negro Employees	75,000.00	8,000.00	83,000.00
Superintendent's Residence.	18,000.00	1,700.00	19,700.00
Roads, Walks and			
Landscaping			17,500.00
			<hr/>
			\$203,200.00

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APPENDIX I
SOCIAL SERVICE DIVISION

Data by geographical regions and counties concerning the 10,318 blind persons on biennial census report for the period July 1, 1950 through June 30, 1952.

Table No. 1. Data by Geographical Regions and Counties Concerning Blind Persons
Biennial Census Report for the Period—July 1, 1950 - June 30, 1952

STATE GEOGRAPHICAL REGIONS AND COUNTIES	Total No. Blind Persons										STATE GEOGRAPHICAL REGIONS AND COUNTIES	Total No. Blind Persons										
	Race		Sex		Percent Age					Percent of Blindness			Age at Onset of Blindness		Source of Support							
	White	Negro	Male	Female	5-14 years	15-24 years	25-44 years	45-64 years	65 and over	Unknown			Total	Percent Total	65 years	15-17 years	25-44 years	45-64 years	65 and over	Unknown	Orphanage (Thousand dollars from State & Institutions)	Other
NORTH CAROLINA GRAND TOTAL																						10210
HIGHLAND REGION																						1601
Albemarle	160	128	214	2	3,893	328	22	79	127	339	681	1615									WHELAND REGION	1601
Ashley	34	38	1	0	18	16	1	2	1	0	17	4									Albemarle	1601
Astor	45	1	0	296	17	0	1	8	7	18	16	24									Astor	45
Avery	26	37	1	0	17	21	0	1	30	2	14	16									Avery	26
Batesville	303	212	61	0	146	131	0	86	39	65	109	588									Batesville	303
Barker	180	92	15	0	52	52	1	4	20	27	23	24									Barker	180
Caldwell	30	60	9	0	48	41	3	16	7	11	28	89									Caldwell	30
Cherokee	87	54	3	0	20	21	3	2	36	8	32	15									Cherokee	87
Chit	85	45	0	24	16	4	1	6	0	11	18	47									Chit	85
Granham	12	36	0	1	14	2	0	2	1	0	0	17									Granham	12
Haywood	86	92	1	0	17	26	1	0	38	27	32	86									Haywood	86
Henderson	98	75	24	0	43	31	0	2	4	16	21	246									Henderson	98
Jackson	34	30	0	0	17	17	0	2	6	7	5	34									Jackson	34
Macon	38	47	2	0	23	12	1	2	8	9	7	18									Macon	38
Madison	37	81	1	0	34	17	0	3	8	9	12	82									Madison	37
McDowell	96	47	10	0	27	23	0	1	15	4	32	24									McDowell	96
Michell	24	23	1	0	18	18	0	1	4	2	7	56									Michell	24
Polk	27	25	4	0	12	12	1	0	4	4	11	25									Polk	27
Rutherford	126	107	17	0	67	62	0	8	13	34	30	229									Rutherford	126
Swain	42	40	1	0	23	14	0	2	8	9	3	83									Swain	42
Tolmie Island	36	32	0	0	22	14	1	2	3	14	6	30									Tolmie Island	36
Watauga	53	57	1	0	26	23	0	2	3	11	14	58									Watauga	53
Wilkes	117	110	7	0	67	66	7	8	12	46	25	117									Wilkes	117
Yancey	41	45	1	0	20	12	0	0	4	3	11	47									Yancey	41
PIEDMONT REGION																						1624
Alamance	124	200	24	0	8	66	26	7	4	7	22	324									ALAMANCE REGION	1624
Alexander	14	12	2	0	13	11	0	1	5	1	7	24									Alexander	14
Anson	39	33	21	0	41	48	0	7	6	10	18	39									Anson	39
Cabarrus	128	92	43	0	66	36	0	8	16	7	25	185									Cabarrus	128
Cann	27	15	13	0	35	29	0	6	5	4	14	87									Cann	27
Catawba	94	71	23	0	38	38	0	6	27	7	25	94									Catawba	94
Chatham	36	43	42	0	42	47	1	2	39	11	28	64									Chatham	36
Cleveland	137	95	30	0	54	65	0	7	18	30	35	137									Cleveland	137
Dartmouth	142	114	23	0	12	84	0	12	5	33	38	142									Dartmouth	142
David	22	22	9	0	12	17	0	6	1	2	7	22									David	22
Durham	350	234	362	0	186	287	9	8	208	68	182	702									Durham	350
Forsyth	348	134	148	0	143	163	0	2	21	60	95	526									Forsyth	348
Franklin	60	72	58	0	34	36	1	8	2	5	25	140									Franklin	60
Gaston	186	141	48	0	56	60	0	9	35	32	43	186									Gaston	186
Greenville	84	72	37	0	42	49	1	2	4	10	33	84									Greenville	84
Guilford	559	234	815	0	298	442	0	3	209	87	168	1,020									Guilford	559
Holden	91	86	81	0	83	32	3	2	6	20	22	87									Holden	91
Lee	80	41	45	0	50	45	1	4	7	12	8	74									Lee	80
Lenoir	42	45	19	0	37	19	1	5	8	6	24	60									Lenoir	42
Mecklenburg	114	262	208	0	236	336	1	12	22	9	68	611									Mecklenburg	114
Montgomery	81	18	18	0	32	29	0	2	6	38	34	61									Montgomery	81
Moores	123	96	72	0	70	77	3	10	11	25	31	123									Moores	123
Orange	88	78	21	0	78	21	0	1	37	8	15	88									Orange	88
Peters	41	18	12	0	19	27	1	1	2	12	9	41									Peters	41
Rocky	80	77	37	0	47	41	1	13	0	31	35	80									Rocky	80
Richmond	112	71	71	0	89	75	7	7	31	39	32	112									Richmond	112
Rocky	122	121	41	0	53	59	0	16	16	34	32	122									Rocky	122
Salem	136	66	54	0	64	72	0	9	30	29	45	136									Salem	136
Stall	76	41	25	0	58	44	0	3	17	15	35	76									Stall	76
Stokes	16	48	8	0	38	18	1	2	8	12	16	16									Stokes	16
Surry	80	65	83	0	41	44	0	4	2	13	14	80									Surry	80
Town	68	27	29	0	38	36	0	1	18	16	17	68									Town	68
Wake	18	21	24	0	27	21	0	2	1	6	16	48									Wake	18
Watauga	365	231	363	0	180	172	0	13	24	79	97	365									Watauga	365
Warren	76	58	49	0	49	49	0	1	26	11	24	76									Warren	76
Yadkin	48	48	7	0	23	23	1	0	8	8	25	48									Yadkin	48
PLAIN REGION UPPER COASTAL																						2609
Bertie	72	23	58	0	21	24	2	1	4	14	13	72									Bertie	72
Bladen	71	45	31	0	42	44	0	7	10	11	12	71									Bladen	71
Columbus	67	64	23	0	25	32	0	4	6	16	24	67									Columbus	67
Cumberland	803	54	72	0	82	98	1	2	22	20	78	803									Cumberland	803
Dorchester	107	67	15	0	66	41	1	4	12	11	33	107									Dorchester	107
Edgewood	188	16	368	0	37	85	2	7	20	27	43	188									Edgewood	188
Gates	81	11	27	0	28	23	1	2	9	14	9	81									Gates	81
Greene	46	14	28	0	26	20	3	2	8	4	15	46									Greene	46
Hatteras	148	69	88	0	81	64	0	4	16	28	43	148									Hatteras	148
Hatteras	218	128	124	0	110	88	0	12	19	20	43	218									Hatteras	218
Hatteras	79	46	41	0	32	37	2	10	6	13	14	79									Hatteras	79
Hoke	41	14	23	0	16	24	1	2	7	7	15	41									Hoke	41
Johnston	218	113	75	0	123	94	3	10	14	17	106	218									Johnston	218
Kenner	113	64	51	0	68	67	0	9	14	32	27	113									Kenner	113
Martin	87	37	24	0	52	36	1	2	10	14	12	87									Martin	87
Nash	173	85	107	0	86	89	2	12	12	28	38	173									Nash	173
Northampton	100	26	80	0	68	61	3	5	16	18	62	100									Northampton	100
Perlin	212	168	127	0	118	122	5	14	14	24	36	212									Perlin	212
Robeson	168	63	70	0	31	82	87	0	12	18	24	168									Robeson	168
Sampson	119	68	42	0	66	56	0	7	13	22	36	119									Sampson	119
Scotland	56	27	32	0	38	21	1	8	7	11	17	56									Scotland	56
Wayne	130	72	27	0	78	58	2	8	14	12	31	130									Wayne	130
Wilson	177	81	96	0	92	76	1	10	6	24	38	177									Wilson	177
TIDEWATER REGION																						1258
Brunswick	188	167	17	0	36	54	3	0	10	20	26	188									Brunswick	188
Brunswick	87	7	23	0	33	61	0	4	18	10	29	87									Brunswick	87
Candler	12	34	3	0	8																	

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APPENDIX II
MEDICAL DIVISION

Data on the 32,669 indigent persons examined by Eye Physicians during the past biennium.

DATA ON 32,669 INDIGENT PERSONS EXAMINED BY EYE PHYSICIANS DURING THE PAST BIENN

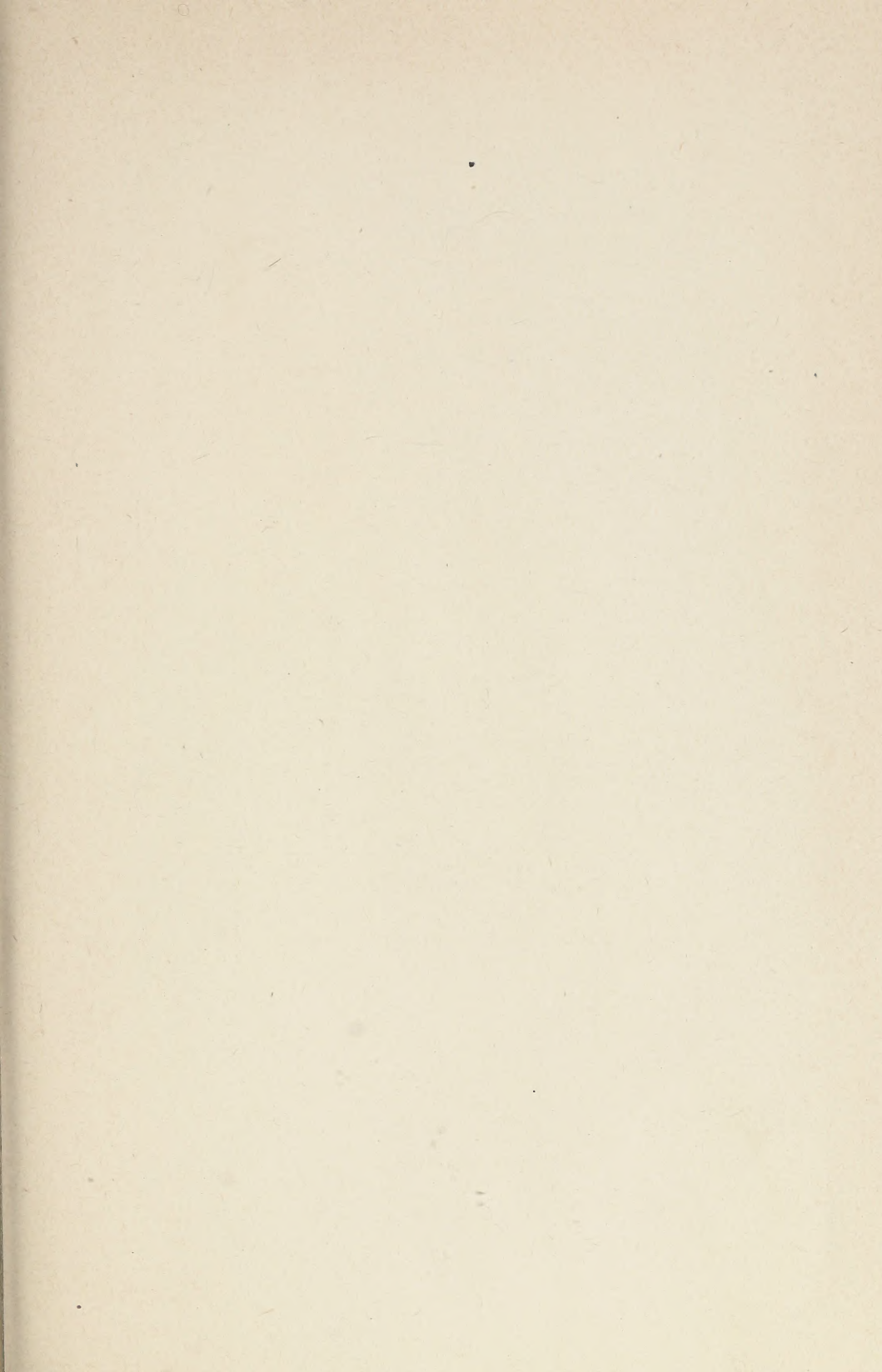
APPENDIX III
ACCOUNTING DIVISION

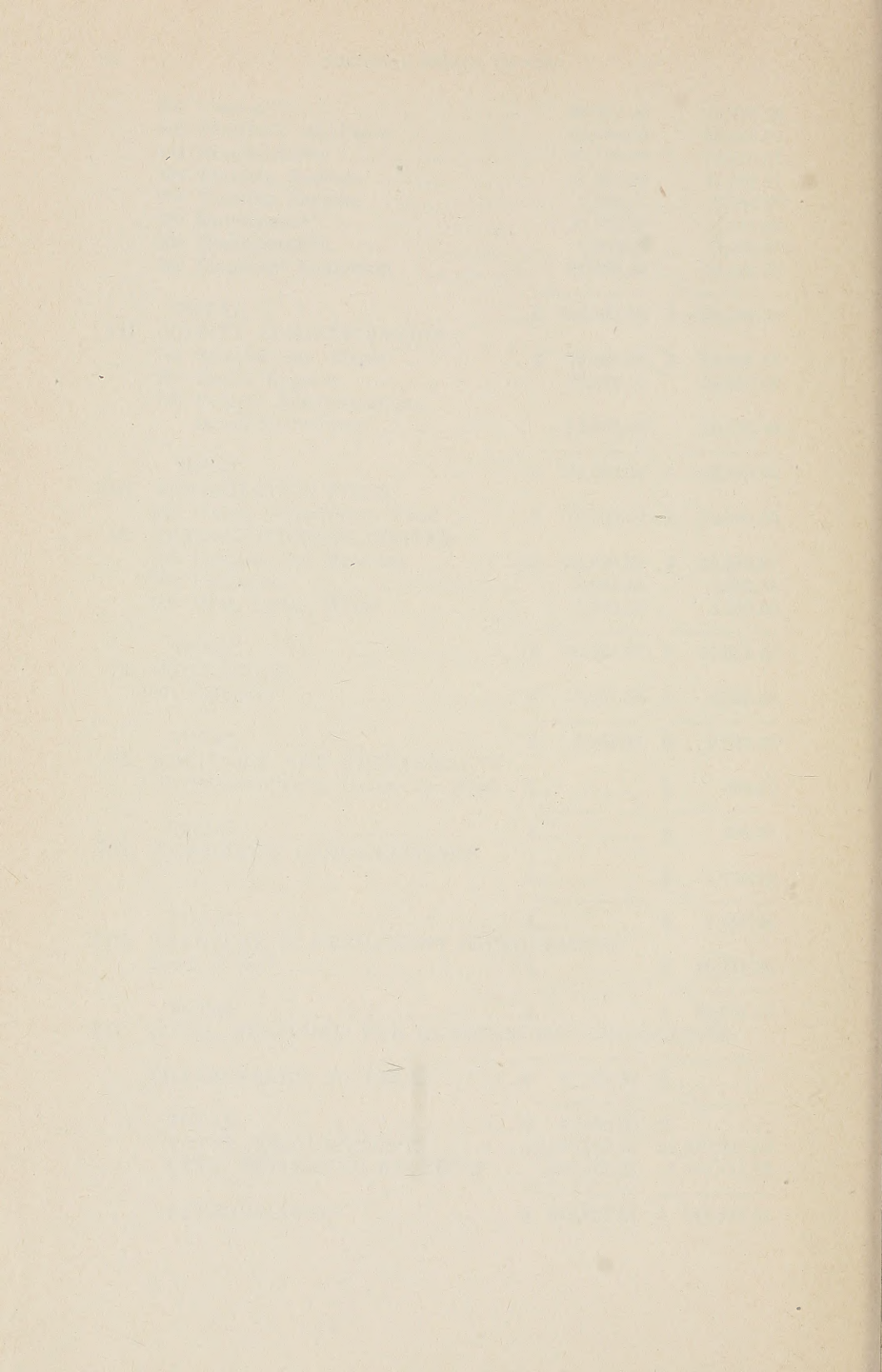
Budgetary Expenditures of the Commission during the Bien-
nium July 1, 1950 through June 30, 1952.

EXPENDITURES FOR 1950-51 AND 1951-52
CHAPTER 1249, PUBLIC LAWS OF 1949, TITLE III-26
CHAPTER 642 PUBLIC LAWS 1951, TITLE III-26

Purpose and/or Objects	Expenditures	Expenditures
I. ADMINISTRATION	for 1950-51	for 1951-52
101 Salary—Executive Secretary	\$ 5,766.64	\$ 6,680.00
102 Salaries and Wages—Staff	50,227.99	51,060.60
103 Expense of Commission	351.01	376.03
104 Supplies and Materials	1,433.06	2,396.26
105 Postage, Telephone and Telegraph ..	4,199.92	3,849.12
106 Travel Expense	9,353.35	9,168.45
107 Printing and Binding	2,667.16	2,993.35
108 Repairs and Alaterations	364.70	591.08
109 General Expense	40.82	40.57
110 Insurance and Bonding	29.09	34.50
111 Equipment	2,981.13	1,651.97
112 Merit System Expense	808.76	849.94
113 Office Rent	6,254.00	1,274.80
TOTAL	\$ 84,487.63	\$ 80,966.27
II. AID TO THE BLIND ADMINISTRATION		
201 Salaries and Wages	\$ 33,445.50	\$ 36,495.00
202 Travel Expense	7,530.58	7,369.26
TOTAL	\$ 40,976.08	\$ 43,864.26
III. REHABILITATION SERVICES		
301 Salaries and Wages	\$ 11,385.17	\$ 8,040.48
302 Travel Expense	2,490.40	986.80
303 Rent	3,201.23	2,694.50
304 Expenses of Board Members Bureau of Employment for the Blind	194.47	273.17
305 Retirement System	513.70	413.63
TOTAL	\$ 17,784.97	\$ 12,408.58
IV. VOCATIONAL GUIDANCE AND PLACEMENT SERVICES		
401 Salaries and Wages	\$ 63,101.84	\$ 64,570.31
402 Travel Expense	19,965.24	15,135.43
403 Retirement System	2,689.55	3,940.47
TOTAL	\$ 85,756.63	\$ 83,646.21
V. PAYMENTS TO NEEDY BLIND		
501 County	\$ 310,234.25	\$ 322,368.50
502 Federal	1,136,777.50	1,179,321.11
503 State	309,919.00	322,672.00
TOTAL	\$1,756,930.75	\$1,824,361.61
VI. CASE SERVICES		
601 Examinations	\$ 27,370.29	\$ 32,499.26

602	Treatments	39,597.42	38,363.08
603	Prosthetic Appliance	49,882.93	58,583.37
604	Hospitalization	81,189.78	86,329.01
605	Training Expense	47,255.49	47,999.11
606	Training Supplies	3,533.11	2,544.87
607	Maintenance	44,515.29	44,998.43
608	Transportation	3,582.63	3,999.80
609	Placement Equipment	27,980.38	23,146.00
TOTAL		\$ 324,907.32	\$ 338,462.93
VII.	COUNTY ADMINISTRATION		
701	Salaries and Wages	\$ 79,063.63	\$ 86,385.23
702	Travel Expense	79,979.11	46,055.02
703	Federal Administration—		
	Direct to Counties	16,995.60	16,496.40
TOTAL		\$ 145,038.34	\$ 148,936.65
VIII.	EQUALIZATION FUND		
801	County Equalization Fund	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 12,000.00
IX.	PRECONDITIONING CENTER		
901	Supplies and Materials	\$ 23,999.32	\$ 23,518.67
902	Equipment	3,686.14	1,802.33
903	Heat, Lights, Water	1,999.44	4,500.00
TOTAL		\$ 29,684.90	\$ 29,821.00
X.	WORKSHOPS		
1001	Equipment	\$ 9,954.58	\$ 9,923.32
TOTAL		\$ 9,954.58	\$ 9,923.32
XI.	ADDITIONS AND BETTERMENTS		
1101	Preconditioning Center for Blind	\$	\$ 309.27
TOTAL		\$	\$ 309.27
XII.	WORKMEN'S COMPENSATIONS		
		\$	\$ 1,759.04
TOTAL		\$	\$ 1,759.04
XIII.	TRANSFER TO PERMANENT IMPROVEMENT		
	Fund of 1947	\$	\$ 23,771.00
TOTAL		\$	\$ 23,771.00
XIV.	TOTAL RESERVED FOR OUTSTANDING OBLIGATIONS		
TRANSFERRED TO 1951-52		\$ 11,868.00	\$
TOTAL		\$ 11,868.00	\$
TOTAL REQUIREMENTS		\$2,517,389.20	\$2,610,230.54
LESS: ESTIMATED RECEIPTS ...		1,898,405.29	1,966,315.03
APPROPRIATION		\$ 618,983.91	\$ 643,915.51





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